

Agenda for improved data on Medicare and health care

ISSUE: Issues of data access and integrity are central to our role as Medicare policy makers. This annual agenda will be included in the June report to highlight data issues and encourage their resolution.

KEY POINTS: The agenda identifies and discusses specific data needs, including:

- Monitoring access to post acute care services
- Linking home health claims and assessment data to evaluate care outcomes
- Collecting information on physician practice expense
- Completing survey on costs and charges of ambulatory surgical centers
- Promoting timeliness and integrity of cost report data, and
- Accessing to private payer information.

ACTION: Commissioners should provide feedback on the substance and structure of the paper.

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